

received for Montour was spent (as I observed to you before) Letter Bk. II.
e'er he reached the Camp which necessitated me to advance
him so much. I did not know that what you mention was the
Intent of giving Montour a Commission & indeed I question
whether the Man did not misapprehend the purport of it him-
self, otherwise I think he would not have proceeded to raise
any Men for the Service, which that He did M^r Washington
can inform you whose Orders Montour & his Company were
attendant on at the time of the Engagement, for this Reason
I hope you will not be averse to considering the Man & satisfying
the Expences he has been at in supporting his Company, not-
withstanding his doing it was not ordered by you but was
owing to some Mistake or Misapprehension of his own, for
my own part I cannot help thinking him as I before hinted a
well-meaning well-disposed Man & of all the Traders Interpre-
ters or Woodsmen without Comparison the most promising &
honest. I should be obliged to you for acquainting me with
your Determination with respect to him that I might acquaint
him on what footing He stands & what he is to expect. the
Opinion I have already conceived of the Woodsmen & Traders
is very similar to that you entertain of them & I assure you I
shall be very cautious whom I admit of them into the Com-
pany of Rangers that I spoke of. I am sorry to acquaint you
that I have received the Intelligence I before advised you of
concerning the Reinforcement arrived at Fort du Quisne from
Gov^r Morris, but I have writ to Governor Delancey (inclosing p. 47
your Letter) requesting him to inform me if he has learnt any
thing of such a number of the Enemy having been in Motion.
Our Assembly are at present returned home without having
done any thing besides making a Vagrant Act similar to that
lately enacted in Virginia, they will meet again the 15th of
January very soon after which time whatever be the Issue of
their Meeting you may expect to hear from me at the Camp &
in the mean time I hope there will be no urgent Occasion for
my presence. Capt. Clark is now gone to his Company & I
have ordered Col^o Steven to collect all the Recruits to Belhaven
& prepare for leaving that place having as yet commissioned
no Officers myself but those belonging to our Company
& there being but few at Belhaven I could not send any to
Winchester but have ordered Col^o Steven to bring them from
Fredericksburg & take them under his Care. You will let me
know what new Officers you intend to appoint, the Old Com-
panies I think should be first compleated & the new Ones to
be then raised & formed wth the same number, each Company
to consist of a Captain 3 Lieutenants or 2 Lieutenants & an
Ensign. 4 Sergeants 4 Corporals 2 Drummers & 100 private
Men. As I know not what Messages have been already sent